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PATENT, TRADEMARK  
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Date: February 5, 2004

Attorney Docket No. NIT-409

CUSTOMER NO. 24956

16834 U.S. PTO  
10/771453

020504  
020504

To: Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Sir: Transmitted herewith for filing is the patent application of:

Inventor: Y. WATANABE et al (see attached)

For:  
STORAGE SYSTEM, AND CONTROL METHOD, JOB SCHEDULING PROCESSING  
METHOD, AND FAILURE HANDLING METHOD THEREFOR, AND PROGRAM  
FOR EACH METHOD

Enclosed are:

17 Sheets of Drawings  
 This application is being filed without an executed Declaration.

Priority is claimed from Japanese Application No. 2003-390239 (which is hereby filed November 20, 2003).  A certified copy is attached herewith. incorporated by reference)

Copies of the disclosure documents listed on the attached PTO 1449 form and  discussed in the specification or  attached Information Disclosure Statement.

Small entity status under 37 CFR 1.9 and 1.27 is hereby claimed.

Specification: Abstract , Description 52 pages; and 9 claim(s).

Preliminary Amendment.

Executed Declaration.

The filing fee is calculated as shown below:

For:	No. Filed	No. Extra
Basic Fee		
Total Claims	9 -20 =	* 0
Indep Claims	2 - 3 =	* 0
<input type="checkbox"/> Multiple Dependent Claim (s)		
* If difference is less than zero then enter '0' in second column		

Small Entity

Rate	Fee
	\$ 375
x 9	\$
x 42	\$
+ 140	\$
Total	\$

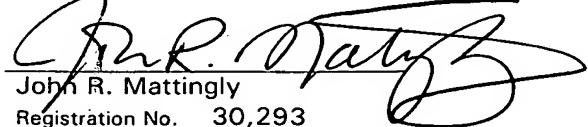
OR

Rate	Fee
	\$ 770
x 18	\$ 0
x 84	\$ 0
+ 280	\$ 0
Total	\$ 770

A check or credit card payment form in the amount of \$ 770.00 is enclosed for the filing fee.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required to Deposit Account No. 50-1417.

Respectfully Submitted,

By:   
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Registration No. 30,293